Here are some of Steve Farrington’s favorite “greatest hits” of tips for teaching Spanish and trying to make Spanish fun and accessible…..

\*Subjunctive= Clause 1 (WEIRDOS) + que +CLAUSE 2 (Yo-o-drop-flip) or DISHES

\* “How you feel or where you are, always use the verb estar.” (location/temporary things)

* For irregular tú-form verbs, they make a silly rhyme: Ven-di-sal-haz-ten-ve-pon-se
* (“Vin Diesel has ten weapons”)
* The 12 irregular preterits are sometimes called the “dirty dozen” (tuv, quis, pus, pud, estuv, cup, anduv, vin, hic(z), sup, traj, dij)
* When I was a kid, in the long ago “era,” I used to sing ABBA (aba) songs….yo cant*aba*…..(illustrates the imperfect tense)
* For the imperfect subjunctive, use the “ellos” preterite, drop “RON” and then add: ra, ras, ra, ‘ramos, ran. (I always explain here that they did something, they dropped off Ron, who is annoying , and then they cheered! “Ra, ras, ra, ‘ramos, ran!” (AKA Lady Gaga tense)

Nice websites: Quizlet, conjuguemos.com, duolingo.com, or go to [www.learner.org](http://www.learner.org/) and find the show “Destinos” under For. Languages for episodes

Here are some fun videos on Youtube:

* 1) For basic Spanish classes, check out these videos: *¿Qué hora es?* (A spoof of the *telenovela* genre, very funny)
* 2) ¿Qué tiempo hace hoy? (check this out for teaching weather and ser/estar, a nice song and lots of fun videos made of this)
* 3) The “One semester of Spanish Love Song” is corny, but fun, and a good review of some basic phrases.

4) Conjugation Back! A video about conjugating “ar” verbs.

Ser and Estar

* STOP and HEALTH
* Ser
* Time: ¿Qué hora es? Son las once.
* Origins: ¿De dónde eres? Soy de Rochester.
* Permanent/personality: Marcos es alto, simpático, etc.
* Health: Marta está enferma
* Estar:
* Attitude: Estoy contento(a) hoy
* Location: Mi casa está en la ciudad de Rochester
* Temporary Conditions: Pedro está cansado
* Happening Now: Estamos hablando, estoy comiendo, etc.